

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

This is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application No. 09/919,780, filed July 31, 2001. Because of the length of the parent application and its parentage, Applicant has tried to streamline this application for the convenience of the Patent Office Examiner by submitting the following:

- **Substitute Specification.** This Substitute Specification, consisting of 149 pages (including the claims and abstract) has had paragraph numbering added, as well as a new cross-reference to related applications (which cross-reference alone is 3 pages long). Certain minor errors have been corrected and blanks filled in. The changes correspond to amendments entered in the parent and/or the grandparent. The 90 claims in the grandparent were improperly numbered, and the substitute specification corrects that. No new matter has been added.
- **55 sheets of formal drawings.** These include changes that were entered in the parent and/or the grandparent. No new matter has been added.
- **A DeltaView comparison of the enclosed Substitute Specification with the specification as originally presented in the grandparent, 09/355,072, now U.S. Patent No 6,337,479, which was a National Phase filing of PCT Patent Application PCT/US98/01528, filed January 21, 1998.**

Claims 1-90 had been pending. At this time, Applicant is canceling claims 1-8, 10-17, 19-43, 48-53, 48-53, and 65-88 without prejudice to reinstatement for prosecution in this application or a continuing application.

The claims pending in this continuation application being filed herewith are 9, 18, 44-47, 54-64, and 89-90.

Appl. No.
Amdt. dated July 8, 2003
Preliminary Amendment

PATENT

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicant believes all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 650-326-2400.

Respectfully submitted,



David N. Slone
Reg. No. 28,572

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP
Two Embarcadero Center, 8th Floor
San Francisco, California 94111-3834
Tel: 650-326-2400
Fax: 415-576-0300
DNS:dd
PA 3317015 v1